

NEWARK MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

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The allegations raised by the **New Community Corporation** against the five members of the **Newark City Council** at the January 17th meeting concerning municipal land was a personal attack on our credibility as elected officials. At that session, New Community representatives implied that the Council is not supportive of building schools because the land deal for the Lady Liberty Charter School was not approved. This argument is untrue and without merit, and is an attempt by New Community to transform a routine governmental action into a political issue.

A review of the **City Council's interaction with the New Community Corporation** for the past 10 years is as follows:

1. The Council approved over 56 resolutions and ordinances to assist New Community Corporation in the past 10 years (see attached).
2. The total dollar amount that the City Council has approved for New Community Corporation by resolution or ordinance, in the same period amounts to over \$20 million dollars (see attached).
3. The Council has made available over **30.08 acres** of land to New Community Corporation for developmental purposes from 1990 to 2000. (see attached)
4. The City of Newark has been in receipt of a request for land from the State Operated School District for the development of **16 new schools** within the City of Newark. Based on the New Jersey State Supreme Court's decision, that **100% of the total cost** for school construction **will be paid for by the State of New Jersey.**

A difference of opinion on one ordinance between the City Council and New Community Corporation has generated a full page advertisement within the Star Ledger characterizing "an Educational Report Card, reflecting your Councilmember's choice" grading them with A's or F's. In addition a **3 page article in the New Community Clarion** discussing New Community's point of view entitled **"A SAD DAY FOR OUR CHILDREN"** was submitted by Monsignor William J. Linder. And a statement was issued by Raymond Codey, Development Director of New Community Corporation as reported in the January 18th, 20001 Star Ledger, indicating the fight is not over. Cody further stated **"Next is circulating a petition to recall people who are not in favor of educating children;" he said "That starts tomorrow.**

We believe that the approval of over 56 ordinances and, the appropriation of \$20,167,157.00 and the transfer of 30.08 acres of municipal land to New Community and a difference of opinion on one article **does not warrant this unfair attack** against the Council.

Submitted by,

Hon. Donald Bradley, President of the Newark Municipal Council, South Ward Councilman

Hon. Gayle Chaneyfield-Jenkins, Councilwoman At Large

Hon. Luis Quintana, Councilman At Large

Hon Donald K. Tucker, Councilman At Large

Hon. Bessie Walker, Councilwoman At Large